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APPLICANT(S): PETER POST ET AL

SERIAL NO.: 09/522,619 Group Art Unit: 2768

FILED: March 10, 2000

TITLE: "METHOD FOR PROTECTING A SECURITY MODULE AND ARRANGEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE METHOD"

Assistant Commissioner For Patents,

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants respectfully request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

Reference AA - United States Patent No. 5,515,540

Reference AB - United States Patent No. 5,353,350

Reference AC - United States Patent No. 5,097,253

Reference AD - United States Patent No. 4,575,621

Reference AL - United Kingdom Application 2 303 173

Reference AM - PCT Application WO 98/20461

Reference AR - "Information Based Indicia Program Postal Security Device Specification," United States Postal Service, June 13, 1996.

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

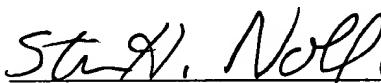
The above references were cited in a Search Report from the European Patent Office during examination of the European Application corresponding to the present United States application. Since all of these references are in English, no further commentary concerning their teachings is necessary.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a First Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the present application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination, or in combination with any of the previously cited references. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231 on January 2, 2001.

Steven H. Noll
Name of Applicants' Attorney

Steven H. Noll
Signature

January 2, 2001
Date